

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): A process to manufacture vinyl acetate in a fluid-bed reactor containing feed stream inlets and gas outlets, in which mixtures comprising ethylene and acetic acid and an oxygen-containing gas are contacted with a particulate fluid-bed catalyst, comprising:

(a) introducing feed to the reactor in more than one inlet such that a feed stream primarily containing ethylene, acetic acid, or a mixture thereof does not contain oxygen within flammability limits, and such that a feed stream primarily containing an oxygen-containing gas does not contain hydrocarbons within flammability limits;

(b) controlling the amount of oxygen entering the reactor such that the outlet

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